

(iii) Encouraging visits of both nationals and residents to each country.

(iv) Encouraging growth of the tourism industry in both countries.

This Memorandum of Understanding has come into force on the date of its signing.

(c) and (d) Such Memorandum of Understandings on Cooperation in the field of tourism are helpful in promoting tourism to India as a whole including Gujarat. These MOUs serve as an instrument for marketing and promoting tourism from a particular market.

New Yatri Niwas in Assam

285. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any programme for setting up new Yatri Niwas in Assam during the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise, location-wise; and

(c) the details of fund allocated for the same by Government, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Govts./UTs, provides financial assistance to them every year for identified projects for development of tourism including the projects for construction of Yatri Niwas.

During the year 1999-2000, in consultation with the Govt. of Assam, a project namely construction of Yatri Niwas at khaspur, 30 Kms. from Silchar in Assam was sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 30.00 lakhs with central share of Rs. 18.00 lakhs. The projects for the year 2000-2001 will be identified in consultation with the State Govt. of Assam shortly.

Excavation of Harappan treasures in Muzaffarnagar

286. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Harappan period Gold Jewellery has been found in Muzaffarnagar in U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and